



Course Description:

This course is designed to acquaint students with local, state, national, and international current events. This course allows students to acquire knowledge of key contemporary personalities and events that impact their lives. This course will help students improve practical skills that will aid them in other classes and life.

Course Objective:

Students will gain knowledge about events that are happening in the present. Utilization of technology will help students improve their digital literacy, research ability, and strengthen analytical skills. Mastering the content standards in this course requires students to investigate issues by looking beyond presentations given in the media.

Course Outline for Contemporary World Issues:

Unit 1: Digital Literacy & Bias

Unit 2: Globalization

Unit 3: Conflict

Unit 4: Human & Civil Rights

Unit 5: Environment & Economy

Unit 6: Civic Engagement

Syllabus and Schedule are subject to change with notification to students.

Textbook & Resources:

Primary sources and secondary sources will be handed out in class or will be posted on the Schoology class page. News sources from across the internet will be utilized for the class. Websites, such as iCivics and Digital Inquiry Group, will be used for simulations in class.

Grades:

Semesters are divided into two 9-week grading periods. Final grades during the 9-week grading period are composed of the following:

- 60% Summative Assessments: Projects, writing assessments, and discussions. Each unit will contain multiple discussions. There will also be one paper per quarter.
- 40% Formative Assessments: In-class assignments, group work, homework.

There will be graded discussions in this class; a rubric will be given out and reviewed.

Projects and writing assignments are graded with a rubric that will be provided to students and be posted on Schoology.

There will be two major papers in this class. Students will be given some class time to hit deadlines for the paper.

Any in-class assignment not completed is expected to be finished as homework, unless otherwise noted.

Late Policy:

- Excused Absences*: Per HCS policy, students with excused absences will have ten days to make up all missing assignments and tests/quizzes. Should students not make up their work in time, they will receive a zero for those assignments and tests/quizzes.
- Unexcused Absences: Students with unexcused absences on traditional in-class days will be able to turn in late work. Submitted late work will have 5 points deducted from the final grade each day that it is late.
- Students who are present in class on traditional in-class days and choose not to do the assignment will receive a ZERO.

Grading Scale:

	A	B	C	D	F
Grading Scale	90 - 100	80 - 89	70 - 79	60 - 69	0 - 59
AP/IB Scale	5	4	3	2	0
Honor Scale	4.5	3.5	2.5	1.5	0
Regular Scale	4	3	2	1	0

Progress Reports / Report Cards

A progress report will be sent out in the middle of each 9-week grading period. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their grades on PowerSchools. Parents also have access to PowerSchools, and it is recommended that they utilize this tool. It is also recommended that parents create an account to follow along with their students' academic progress on Schoology.

The semester average is calculated as follows: 20% (1st Grading Period) + 20% (2nd Grading Period) + 10% (Semester exam).

Expectations:

Students are responsible for make-up work and scheduling make-up tests. If a student is struggling or has questions, they are encouraged to ask. Seek help before falling behind and do not be afraid to email.

Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic ZERO. Plagiarism is a form of cheating, and if detected, will result in an automatic zero; these policies include assignments completed digitally. Any submitted work written, developed, or created by artificial intelligence (AI), that is not a part of an assignment utilizing the technology, is considered plagiarism and will result in a ZERO.

Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared. This includes necessary materials and charged laptops. The use of technology (phones, earbuds, laptops) is prohibited during instructional time. Disruptions or unprofessional actions will result in an email sent home.